

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) An electrochemical device component, comprising:  
an active metal electrode having a first surface and a second surface;  
a protective composite on the first surface of the electrode, the composite comprising,  
a first material in contact with the electrode, the first material being ionically conductive and chemically compatible with the active metal, ~~wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a composite reaction product of the active metal with a metal nitride, a composite reaction product of the active metal with silicon nitride, a composite reaction product of the active metal with a metal halide, a composite reaction product of the active metal with a metal phosphide, a reaction product of the active metal with red phosphorus, and a reaction product of the active metal with LiPON coated with a wetting layer; and~~  
a second material in contact with the first material, the second material being substantially impervious, ionically conductive and chemically compatible with the first material;  
wherein the protective composite comprises a gradual transition between the first material and the second material; and  
wherein the ionic conductivity of the composite is at least  $10^{-7}$  S/cm.
2. (original) The component of claim 1, further comprising a current collector on the second surface of the active metal electrode.
3. (previously presented) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material is comprised in an electrolyte in a battery cell.
4. (previously presented) The component of claim 3, wherein the second material is the sole electrolyte in the battery cell.
5. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the ionic conductivity of the second material is between about  $10^{-6}$  S/cm and  $10^{-3}$  S/cm.
6. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the ionic conductivity of the second material is between about  $10^{-5}$  S/cm and  $10^{-4}$  S/cm.

7. (previously presented) The component of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the second material in the composite is about 10 to 1000 microns.
8. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the active metal of the electrode is lithium or a lithium alloy.
- 9-10. (canceled)
11. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of glassy or amorphous metal ion conductors, ceramic active metal ion conductors, and glass-ceramic active metal ion conductors.
12. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of LiPON,  $\text{Li}_3\text{PO}_4$ ,  $\text{Li}_2\text{S} \cdot \text{SiS}_2$ ,  $\text{Li}_2\text{S} \cdot \text{GeS}_2 \cdot \text{Ga}_2\text{S}_3$ , LISICON, NASICON, sodium beta-alumina and lithium beta-alumina.
13. (canceled)
14. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material is an ion conductive glass-ceramic having the following composition:

Composition	mol %
$\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$	26-55%
$\text{SiO}_2$	0-15%
$\text{GeO}_2 + \text{TiO}_2$	25-50%
in which $\text{GeO}_2$	0--50%
$\text{TiO}_2$	0--50%
$\text{ZrO}_2$	0-10%
$\text{M}_2\text{O}_3$	$0 < 10\%$
$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$	0-15%
$\text{Ga}_2\text{O}_3$	0-15%
$\text{Li}_2\text{O}$	3-25%

and containing a predominant crystalline phase composed of  $\text{Li}_{1+x}(\text{M}, \text{Al}, \text{Ga})_x(\text{Ge}_{1-y}\text{Ti}_y)_{2-x}(\text{PO}_4)_3$  where  $X \leq 0.8$  and  $0 \leq Y \leq 1.0$ , and where M is an element selected from the group consisting of

Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm and Yb and/or and  $\text{Li}_{1+x+y}\text{Q}_x\text{Ti}_{2-x}\text{Si}_y\text{P}_{3-y}\text{O}_{12}$  where  $0 < X \leq 0.4$  and  $0 < Y \leq 0.6$ , and where Q is Al or Ga.

15-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) The component of claim 8 ~~claim 10~~, wherein the first material comprises a composite reaction product of Li with  $\text{Cu}_3\text{N}$  metal nitride is copper nitride ( $\text{Cu}_3\text{N}$ ).

22-24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The component of claim 8, wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a reaction product of Li with LiPON coated with a wetting layer.

26. (previously presented) The component of claim 25, wherein the wetting layer coating is Ag.

27. (previously presented) The component of claim 25, wherein the wetting layer coating is Sn.